

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION SS-30

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O R 301030Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3141

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T SANAA 2465

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TC, YE, JO, US

SUBJ: YEMEN ARMS PACKAGE

DEPT PASS USCINCEUR

REF: A. ABU DHABI 1684

B. SANAA 2457

C. SANAA 2463

1. AMBASSADOR SAW CENTRAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION DIRECTOR DR. ABDUL-KARIM AL-IRYANI, DECEMBER 30. IRYANI WHO IS ALSO PRESIDENT'S NEPHEW AND CARRIES OUT MANY SENSITIVE POLITICAL TASKS IN ADDITION HIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNCTIONS, HAD JUST RETURNED AFTER ALMOST TWO MONTHS' ABSENCE ON MISSION IN ITALY AND U.S. HE SAID SADLY THAT IT LOOKED AS IF HE WOULD BE OFF AGAIN IN A FEW DAYS' TIME. ROCKETING OIL PRICES HITTING YEMEN'S POOR ECONOMY HARD. FINANCE MINISTER JUNAID CURRENTLY IN SAUDI ARABIA SEEKING NEGOTIATE SPECIAL DISCOUNT FOR YEMEN. DEPENDING ON RESULTS HIS MISSION, IRYANI MIGHT HAVE TO GO TO ABU DHABI TO PETITION SHAIKH ZAYID.

2. AMBASSADOR SAID THIS COULD BE FORTUITOUS.

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EXPLAINING HANG-UP ON ABU DHABI FINANCING OF U.S.

ARMS SALE AND FURTHER COMPLICATION
INHERENT IN YEMEN'S INTENTION SEND ANOTHER OFFICER TO
SHAIKH ZAYID IN LATE JANUARY TO DISCUSS MULTI-
YEAR FINANCING OF JORDANIAN MILITARY TRAINING
PROGRAMS. SUGGESTED IT POOR DIPLOMACY GO AT
SHAIKH ZAYID PIECEMEAL. FAR BETTER COMBINE ALL
REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN SINGLE MISSION EVEN
IF, AS WITH JORDANIAN ASPECT, THERE WOULD HAVE
TO BE SUBSEQUENT FOLLOW-UP TO PROVIDE DETAILS.

3. IRYANI AGREED SAYING HE WOULD SEEK AUTHORIZATION
OF PRESIDENT AND MILITARY COMMAND SPEAK ON ALL
THREE ISSUES IF HIS VISIT TO ABU DHABI TOOK PLACE.
SAID MOST LIKELY TIMING WOULD BE ABOUT JANUARY 10
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ID AL-ADHA.

4. AMBASSADOR SAID THERE POSSIBILITY SHAIKH ZAYID WILL NOT
BE IN ABU DHABI AT THAT TIME. IRYANI ASKED THAT WE TRY TO FIND
OUT FOR SURE. IF IT CONFIRMED THAT SHAIKH ZAYID WOULD BE
ABSENT, HE WOULD ADVANCE HIS TRIP ALTHOUGH VERY
RELUCTANTLY. AMBASSADOR SAID WE WOULD QUERY EMBASSY
ABU DHABI AND TRY TO REPLY SOONEST.
CRAWFORD

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED USCINCEUR.

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NNN

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